

a Prisoner of War in World War II. And throughout his life, he never complained.

In 1973, his military records were destroyed by a fire in St. Louis.

But after his family reached out to my office, we were able to secure the medals Mr. Dolney never received.

Last month, I had the honor of presenting to Ted, a Bronze Star, and a European-African-Middle-Eastern Campaign Medal with four Bronze Service Stars.

It was also my honor to present an American Defense Service Medal, and a World War II Victory Medal.

Last month I also presented to Ted: a Combat Infantryman Badge First Award, a Good Conduct Medal, and the Honorable Service Lapel Button, World War II.

These seven medals are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN HORIGAN

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor John L. Horigan, a veteran of Vietnam.

John, on behalf of all Montanans and all Americans, I stand to say "thank you" for your service to this Nation.

It is my honor to share the story of John Horigan's sacrifice in Vietnam, because no story of heroism should ever fall through the cracks.

John joined the Army in October of 1967. He was part of the 86th Transportation Company, based in Long Binh, Vietnam.

His job? Operating equipment and driving trucks for the Army in unimaginable, dangerous conditions.

On August 26, 1968, John's unit came under fire. And he was shot in the arm and in the back.

John returned to the United States after 2 years of service to this Nation. He worked as a millwright in California, and eventually moved with his wife Cindy to the Big Sky State of Montana, where he is welcome as a hero.

After his return home, the military lost John Horigan's records. And he never received the recognition he earned more than 40 years ago. Throughout that time, he never complained.

Last month, I had the honor of presenting to John, in the presence of his family, a Purple Heart, and a Vietnam Service Medal and Bronze Star Attachment.

It was also my honor to present a Meritorious Unit Commendation, and a National Defense Service Medal.

Last month I also presented to John: a Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon with Device, and the Cold War Recognition Certificate.

These six decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

TRIBUTE TO POSTMASTER SHAUNA D. ANDREWS

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I want to recognize and honor Postmaster Shauna D. Andrews, of Hereford, OR, for her exceptional service to her customers and dedication to her neighbors.

Located in eastern Oregon, Hereford is a highly rural, unincorporated community in Baker County. Although Hereford is unincorporated it has a post office that serves approximately 100 postal patrons. Like many rural postmasters, Shauna knows her customers well and connects with them on a regular basis; especially older folks who don't have access to the Internet, cell phones, and other conveniences that are driving down the traditional use of post offices. In Hereford, the post office is a place where people send and receive packages, including mail order prescriptions and vote by mail.

Over the years, Shauna, who is also a first responder, has demonstrated a strong commitment to the folks she considers customers and neighbors. During the week of September 19, 2011, she became concerned when an 85-year-old patron who lives alone on a rural route failed to collect her mail. After 2 days, she grew worried and decided to go to the patron's home. When Shauna and her 19-year-old son arrived at the patron's house, they discovered the woman lying incapacitated on the floor. Shauna immediately called Baker City for transport to the nearest hospital, located 38 miles from Hereford. As of last week, the patron remained in the hospital in Baker City. It is more than a possibility that by taking the time to check on her postal patron, Shauna saved this woman's life.

Shauna has displayed exceptional service and dedication to her customers and neighbors. The Hereford Post Office is on the national closure study list and as we address the future of the Postal Service, it is absolutely imperative that we examine the function of post offices in rural communities. As Shauna has demonstrated, many rural postmasters know their customers well and having a post office is central to a town's identity and vitality.

I recognize Shauna Andrews for her exceptional service to the community of Hereford. Her example is one from which we can all learn.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages

from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED STATES-KOREA FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—PM 24

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with accompanying reports and papers; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Korea Free Trade Agreement (Agreement), a landmark agreement that supports American jobs, advances U.S. interests, and reflects America's fundamental values.

The Agreement levels the playing field for U.S. businesses, workers, farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, investors, and service providers by offering them unprecedented access to Korea's nearly \$1 trillion economy. The Agreement eliminates tariffs on over 95 percent of U.S. exports of industrial and consumer goods to Korea within the first 5 years and, together with the agreement entered into through an exchange of letters in February 2011, addresses key outstanding concerns of American automakers and workers regarding the lack of a level playing field in Korea's auto market. The Agreement also ensures that almost two-thirds of current U.S. agricultural exports will enter Korea duty-free immediately. In addition, the Agreement will give American service providers much greater access to Korea's \$580 billion services market.

The Agreement contains state of the art provisions to help protect and enforce intellectual property rights, reduce regulatory red tape, and eliminate regulatory barriers to U.S. exports. The Agreement also contains the highest standards for protecting labor rights, carrying out covered environmental agreements, and ensuring that key domestic labor and environmental laws are enforced, combined with strong remedies for noncompliance.

Increased U.S. exports expected under the Agreement will support more than 70,000 American jobs. The Agreement will bolster our economic competitiveness in the Asia-Pacific region and our regional security interests. The United States once was the top supplier of goods exported to Korea. Over the past decade, our share of Korea's import market for goods has fallen from 21 percent to just 10 percent—behind China and Japan, and barely ahead of the European Union (EU). The EU and several other trading partners are negotiating or have recently concluded trade agreements with Korea. If

the United States-Korea trade agreement is not approved, the United States could lose further market share, export-supported jobs, and economic growth opportunities, with damage to our leadership position in the region.

As a part of an ambitious trade agenda, it is important that the Congress renew a strong and robust Trade Adjustment Assistance Program consistent with reforms enacted in 2009. Renewal of that program is necessary to support Americans who need training and other services when their jobs are adversely affected by trade. As we expand access to other markets abroad, we need to ensure that American workers are provided the tools needed to take advantage of these opportunities and are not left behind in the global economy.

Approving and implementing the Agreement is an opportunity to shape history. We must seize the moment together to support jobs for the American people today and to sustain U.S. leadership well into the 21st century. I urge the Congress to enact this legislation promptly.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 3, 2011.

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED STATES-PANAMA TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENT—PM 25

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with accompanying reports and papers; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Panama Trade Promotion Agreement (Agreement). The Agreement is an important part of my Administration's efforts to spur economic growth, increase exports, and create jobs here in the United States, while promoting our core values. The Agreement will create significant new opportunities for American workers, farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, investors, and businesses by opening Panama's market and eliminating barriers to U.S. goods, services, and investment.

The Agreement also represents an important development in our relations with Panama, and accords with the goal, as expressed by the Congress in the Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act, to conclude comprehensive, mutually advantageous trade agreements with beneficiary countries of the Caribbean Basin Initiative trade preference program. The Agreement further reflects a commitment on the part of the United States to sustained engagement in support of democracy, economic growth, and opportunity in Panama and the region.

Panama is one of the fastest growing economies in Latin America. Upon

entry into force of the Agreement, Panama will immediately eliminate its tariffs on over 87 percent of U.S. exports of consumer and industrial goods and on more than half of U.S. exports of agricultural goods. Panama will eliminate most other duties on U.S. exports within a 15-year transition period. Eighty-five percent of U.S. businesses exporting to Panama are small- and medium-sized enterprises. The elimination of duties provided for in the Agreement will help to level the playing field for them and for all U.S. exporters, based on 2010 trade flows, as approximately 98 percent of our imports from Panama already enjoy duty-free access to the U.S. market. In addition, the Agreement will give American service providers greater access to Panama's \$20.6 billion services market.

The Agreement contains state of the art provisions to help protect and enforce intellectual property rights, reduce regulatory red tape, and eliminate regulatory barriers to U.S. exports. The Agreement also contains the highest standards for protecting labor rights, carrying out covered environmental agreements, and ensuring that key domestic labor and environmental laws are enforced, combined with strong remedies for noncompliance. Panama has already made significant reforms related to the obligations it will have under the labor chapter.

As a part of an ambitious trade agenda, it is important that the Congress renew a strong and robust Trade Adjustment Assistance Program consistent with reforms enacted in 2009. Renewal of that program is necessary to support Americans who need training and other services when their jobs are adversely affected by trade. As we expand access to other markets abroad, we need to ensure that American workers are provided the tools needed to take advantage of these opportunities and are not left behind in the global economy.

Approval of the Agreement is in our national interest. The Agreement will strengthen our economic and political ties with Panama, support democracy, and contribute to further economic integration in our hemisphere and economic growth in the United States. I urge the Congress to enact this legislation promptly.

BARACK OBAMA.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 3, 2011.

LEGISLATION AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE UNITED STATES-COLOMBIA TRADE PROMOTION AGREEMENT—PM 26

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with accompanying reports and papers; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to imple-

ment the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement (Agreement). The Agreement is an important part of my Administration's efforts to spur economic growth, increase exports, and create jobs in the United States, while promoting our core values. The Agreement will create significant new opportunities for American workers, farmers, ranchers, businesses, and consumers by opening the Colombian market and eliminating barriers to U.S. goods, services, and investment.

The Agreement also represents a historic development in our relations with Colombia. Colombia is a steadfast strategic partner of the United States and a leader in the region. The Agreement reflects the commitment of the United States to supporting democracy and economic growth in Colombia. It will also help Colombia battle production of illegal crops by creating alternative economic opportunities.

Under the Agreement, tariffs on over 80 percent of U.S. consumer and industrial exports will be eliminated immediately. United States agricultural exports in particular will enjoy substantial new improvements in access to Colombia's market. Currently, no U.S. agricultural exports enjoy duty-free access to Colombia. Once the Agreement enters into force, almost 70 percent, by value, of current U.S. agricultural exports will be able to enter Colombia duty-free immediately. In addition, the Agreement will give American service providers greater access to Colombia's \$134 billion services market. This will help to level the playing field, since 91 percent of our imports from Colombia have enjoyed duty-free access to our market under U.S. trade preference programs.

The Agreement contains state of the art provisions to help protect and enforce intellectual property rights, reduce regulatory red tape, and eliminate regulatory barriers to U.S. exports. The Agreement also contains the highest standards for protecting labor rights, carrying out covered environmental agreements, and ensuring that key domestic labor and environmental laws are enforced, combined with strong remedies for noncompliance. Colombia has already made significant reforms related to the obligations it will have under the labor chapter. A number of these steps have been taken in fulfillment of the commitments Colombia made in the agreed Action Plan Related to Labor Rights that President Santos and I announced on April 7. Colombia must successfully implement key elements of the Action Plan before I will bring the Agreement into force.

This Agreement forms an integral part of my Administration's larger strategy of doubling exports by the end of 2014 through opening markets around the world. In addition, the Agreement provides an opportunity to strengthen our economic and political ties with the Andean region, and underpins U.S. support for democracy